

Message Text

PAGE 01 KINSHA 05107 210153Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SSO-00 /018 W
-----069855 210159Z /63

O 210130Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9859
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI NIACT IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 5107

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, CG, MOPS, PINS
SUBJECT: SHABA ATTACK: UNCONFIRMED DEATH OF LONNIE GLEN

REF: STATE 127878; KINSHASA 5097

1. INTERVIEW OF EVACUEES FROM KOLWEZI HAS NOT REPEAT NOT
PRODUCED CONFIRMATION OF LONNIE GLEN'S DEATH.

2. HARRIET GLEN NOT AWARE OF CIS REORTS OF HER HUSBAND'S
DEATH. CIS WILL INFORM HER IN THE MORNING.
CUTLER

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 05107 02 OF 03 211109Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 SY-05 SCS-06 A-01
OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 AID-05 IO-13 /130 W
-----072224 211113Z /11

O 211000Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9862
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1557
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7, ECJ2-T IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USCINCRD MACDILL AFB FL/RCJ2 IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 KINSHASA 5107

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DEPT ALSO FOR A/SY/OPS/FO/AF

DEPT PASS PEACE CORPS

D. AMCIT FATHERS WAGNER AND MESSERICH DESCRIBED REBELS

AS WEARING TWO DIFFERENT UNIFORMS: ONE KHAKI, THE OTHER CAMOUFLAGE. ALL SOLDIERS WORE INSIGNIA OF TIGER BATTALION OF FLNC. BELGIAN ASSOCIATE OF FATHER MESSERICH RECOGNIZED ONE OF THE REBELS AS A FORMER LUNDA STUDENT OF HIS FROM KAPANGA. REBELS SAID THEY HAD WALKED FOR TEN DAYS FROM ANGOLA TO KOLWEZI VIA ZAMBIA. FORFIRST FEW DAYS AFTER SEIZING KOLWEZI THEY TALKED OF MOVING ON TO TAKE LIKASI AND LUBUMBASHI. AFTER HEARING MID-WEEK BROADCASTS OF IMMINENT FRENCH PARADROP, THEY TALKED INSTEAD OF DESTROYING AS MUCH OF GECAMINES AS POSSIBLE, DISAPPEARING INTO THE BUSH, AND THEN RETURNING ONCE THE FRENCH PULL OUT.

A. ZAIRIAN FORCES. FATHER MESSERICH WAS TOLD BY SEVERAL ZAIRIAN ASSOCIATES THAT THE FAZ PARATROOPS DROPPED IN THE VICINITY OF KOLWEZI AIRPORT MAY 16 WERE WIPED OUT BY REBELS. BOTH MESSERICH AND WAGNER EMPHASIZED ABSENCE OF ANY FAZ RESISTANCE TO REBELS DURING INVASION MAY 13.

4. INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION

A. THERE WAS CALM IN KINSHASA ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 20, IT WAS A REGULAR NATIONAL HOLIDAY, THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ZAIRE'S "SUPREME POLITICAL ORGANIZATION," THE MPR (MOUVEMENT POPULAIRE DE LA REVOLUTION), AND A MAJOR SOCCER MATCH TOOK PLACE THAT AFTERNOON AT THE MUNICIPAL STADIUM.

B. THERE HAS BEEN ALMOST NO OTHER VISIBLE ANIMATION IN THE CITY. EMBOFFS UNDERSTAND THAT SEVERAL PARADES WERE SCHEDULED IN HONOR OF THE MPR. HOWEVER, ASIDE FROM OBSERVING
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WHAT APPEARED TO BE SEVERAL GATHERINGS OF SMALL CROWDS WHICH QUICKLY DISPERSED, WE HAVE SEEN NO ACTIVITY IN CENTRAL KINSHASA THAT MIGHT BE ASSOCIATED WITH PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS. PRESIDENT MOBUTU IS REPORTED TO HAVE CANCELED THE ARMY SWEEPS OF THE CITY OF KINSHASA MENTIONED IN SITREPS 2 AND 4.

C. WHILE FRENCH MILITARY INTERVENTION HAS INCREASED FRANCE'S CREDIBILITY AMONG AFRICA'S MODERATE STATES, THE EARLY EFFECT AT LEAST

MAY HAVE BEEN QUITE THE OPPOSITE AMONG VARIOUS MEMBERS OF ZAIRE'S EDUCATED CLASS. EMBOFFS HAVE BEEN TOLD BY SEVERAL SOURCES THAT THEY PERCEIVE FRENCH ACTION AS NOTHING MORE THAN ANOTHER RESCUE OPERATION FOR THE MOBUTU REGIME. ALTHOUGH THE PERCEPTION OF FRANCE AS A SHIELD PROTECTING MOBUTU FROM HIS PEOPLE WAS SEEN AFTER THE '77 WAR, IT DID NOT HAVE THE DEGREE OF INTENSITY NOW EVIDENT. FOR EXAMPLE, A FRENCH "COOPERANT" TEACHING AT THE KINSHASA CAMPUS OF ZAIRE'S UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN SHUNNED POINTEDLY BY BOTH STUDENTS AND ZAIRIAN TEACHING COLLEAGUES SINCE MAY 17 WHEN FRENCH MILITARY INTERVENTION FIRST BECAME LIKELY. THE "COOPERANT" SAYS THE SOLE REASON WHY THE ZAIRIANS REFUSE TO SPEAK TO HIM IS HIS NATIONALITY. WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO DETERMINE HOW WIDESPREAD THIS ATTITUDE MIGHT BE.

D. IN LUBUMBASHI SEVERAL INFORMANTS REPORT THAT SKEPTICISM GREETED THE MAY 20 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE VOICE OF ZAIRE THAT THE FAZ HAD INTERCEPTED A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MBUMBA TO HIS TROOPS IN KOLWEZI ORDERING THAT WHILE RETREATING THEY SHOULD DESTROY THE GECAMINES INSTALLATIONS, KIDNAP YOUNG ZAIRIANS AND KILL WHITE HOSTAGES. POPULAR DISTRUST OF ANYTHING COMING FROM THE GOVERNMENT IS SAID TO BE BASED ON FAZ BEHAVIOR IN LUBUMBASHI. ONE INCIDENT REPORTED A GROUP OF SOLDIERS FROM THE KAMANYOLA DIVISION STATIONED IN FRONT OF LUBUMBASHI'S CENTRAL MARKET MAY 19, WHO WERE ROUNDING UP PASSERS-BY AND CARTING THEM OFF TO AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION. ID-CARD CHECKS BY THE MILITARY WERE VISIBLE ALL OVER LUBUMBASHI AS WAS MILITARY VENALITY. HENCE, CERTAIN SOURCES IN LUBUMBASHI LOOK UPON THE CURRENT DANGER TO THE POPULATION IN KOLWEZI, ESPECIALLY FOR LUNDA TRIBESMEN, AS COMING NOT FROM THE INVADERS BUT FROM THE FAZ.

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5. PRESS GUIDANCE: NO CHANGE.

6. DOMESTIC PRESS COVERAGE

THE WRITTEN PRESS CONTINUES WITH ITS EDITORIAL ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET UNION. EVEN THE SOLE NEWS REPORT ABOUT THE FOREIGN OPERATION IN KOLWEZI WAS FILLED WITH EDITORIALIZATION. THAT ITEM, ON THE NEWSPAPER ELIMA'S LATE-NEWS PAGE, REPORTED THAT THE FRENCH PARATROOPS HAD FOUND 44 EUROPEAN BODIES AND RESCUED SEVERAL HOSTAGES, INCLUDING SEVERAL FAZ OFFICERS WHO REPORTED

THAT A CUBAN MOTORIZED FORCE HAD LEFT KOLWEZI JUST AS THE
PARATROOPS WERE ARRIVING. THE ITEM SAYS THAT SINCE THE CUBANS
WERE READILY DISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE KATANGANS, THEIR
PRESENCE IS NOW CONFIRMED, "CONTRARY TO THE DISCOURTEOUS
DECLARATION OF BELGIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SIMONET."
ELIMA ALSO IS THE SOURCE OF EVENTS: THE ZAIRIAN PEOPLE "WILL ONCE
AGAIN HAVE PUT A STOP TO THE DIABOLICAL PROJECTS OF DESTABILIZATION
AND BALKANIZATION ORGANIZED BY MOSCOW, FINANCED BY ALGIERS AND
TRIPOLI, AND EXECUTED BY HAVANA AND LUANDA."

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 05107 03 OF 03 211056Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 SY-05 SCS-06 A-01
OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 AID-05 IO-13 /130 W
-----072169 211059Z /11

O 211000Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9863

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1558

USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7, ECJ2-T IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCRD MACDILL AFB FL/RCJ2 IMMEDIATE

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DEPT ALSO FOR A/SY/OPS/FO/AF

DEPT PASS PEACE CORPS

7. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY

A. RABAT 2983 (NOTAL) PROVIDED FURTHER INFORMATION UPON POSSIBLE OAU PEACEKEEPING FORCE FOR ZAIRE. AS OF MAY 19 AGREEMENT HAD REPORTEDLY BEEN REACHED AMONG MOROCCO, SENEGAL, GABON, AND IVORY COAST TO SEND MILITARY PERSONNEL TO ZAIRE AND A RESPONSE WAS NOW AWAITED FROM "WESTERN FRIENDS" TO A REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT. ACCORDING TO ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR IN RABAT, A TOTAL OF SEVEN COUNTRIES MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE FORCE WITH TOGO, MAURITANIA, AND A THIRD UNIDENTIFIED COUNTRY JOINING THOSE IDENTIFIED SENEGAL AND GABON AS PART OF THE POSSIBLE PEACEKEEPING FORCE.

B. REUTER'S NEWS SERVICE REPORTED THAT CUBA DENIED ON MAY 19 THAT ITS TROOPS WERE IN ANY WAY INVOLVED IN THE SHABAN FIGHTING. CUBAN SOURCES DESCRIBED THE FIGHTING AS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR AND DECLARED THAT THEIR FORCES HAD HAD NO PART IN TRAINING THOSE INVOLVED.

C. BRUSSELS RADIO REPORTED ON FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA DI LUTETE'S MAY 19 PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS. UMBA MADE NO SPECIFIC COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS THEN JUST COMPLETED CONVERSATION WITH BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER BUT STATED THAT ZAIRE HAD ASKED BELGIUM, FRANCE, AND THE UNITED STATES TO INTERVENE IN THE SHABAN FIGHTING IN ORDER TO HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF THEIR NATIONALS HELD HOSTAGE IN KOLWEZI. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THESE COUNTRIES HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO PROVIDE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AS WELL.

D. ACCORDING TO PARIS RADIO MAY 20, PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF SENEGAL, JUST COMPLETING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE, STATED HIS APPROVAL OF FRENCH INTERVENTION IN THE SHABAN FIGHTING AND OPINED THAT THE "KATANGAN FIRE" WOULD SOON BE PUT OUT.

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8. PETROLEUM SITUATION: NO CHANGE.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2540931
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA ATTACK: UNCONFIRMED DEATH OF LONNIE GLEN
TAGS: CASC, MOPS, PINS, CG, (GLEN, LONNIE)
To: STATE NIACT LUBUMBASHI NIACT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e87c3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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